

**State Board of Review Meeting
National Register of Historic Places
South Carolina Department of Archives and History
State Historic Preservation Office**

Minutes of the March 23, 2018 Meeting

The State Board of Review meeting was held in the Wachovia room of the South Carolina Archives and History Center, 8301 Parklane Road, in Columbia, South Carolina.

Members Present

Dr. Lydia Brandt (Vice-Chair), Dr. A.V. Huff, Jr., Dr. Millicent Brown, Ms. Amy Moore, Mr. Chris Judge, Ms. Amalia Leifeste, Ms. Katherine Saunders Pemberton

Members Absent

Mr. William L. Kinney, Jr. (Chairman), Dr. J. Edward Lee, Ms. Mary Katherine Hyman, Ms. Meg Gaillard

Call to Order

The vice-chair called the meeting to order at 10:34 A.M., and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Introduction of Board Members

Dr. Brandt introduced the board members. Dr. Brandt welcomed new board member, Mr. Chris Judge, and recognized the service of retiring review board member, Dr. Millicent Brown.

Approval of Minutes

The members received the minutes of the November 17, 2017, meeting by mail (or e-mail) in the packets prior to the meeting. Dr. Huff made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Ms. Moore. The motion was approved unanimously.

Remarks

Dr. Brandt welcomed all present.

Dr. Brandt then introduced both Dr. W. Eric Emerson, director of the Department of Archives and History and State Historic Preservation Officer, and Mrs. Elizabeth M. Johnson, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, for remarks.

Mrs. Elizabeth M. Johnson, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, gave welcoming remarks, and introduced the National Register staff present: Dr. Ehren Foley and Ms. Virginia Harness. Mrs. Johnson also recognized other staff present from the State Historic Preservation Office: Ms. Pam Kendrick, Historic Architecture Consultant, and Ms. Grace Salter, the Agency Advancement and Foundation Coordinator.

Consideration of Nominations

Dr. Brandt reviewed the procedures, which include five steps, for considering nominations. The procedures are: presentation of nominations; comments by visitors; questions by board members; uninterrupted discussion by board members; and decision by board members.

The following nominations were considered:

1. **Anderson Downtown Historic District Boundary Expansion (Anderson, Anderson County)** was presented by Mr. John B. Ferguson, owner of one of the buildings in the proposed boundary increase. Dr. Huff asked if the Black barber who worked in one of the buildings may have had both white and black clientele, noting that his white family in Orangeburg had their hair cut by a Black barber. Mr. Ferguson stated that he did not know who the clientele at the shop were, but he hoped to do further research. Dr. Brown noted that it was not infrequent for Black barbers to cater to white customers, but that if they did it was likely they served only whites. Dr. Brown also asked about the possibility of some type of recognition for the Jenkins family as part of the restoration of the buildings on the block. Mr. Ferguson said he would certainly like to see something of that nature. Dr. Brown noted that the history of the buildings told a larger story about the Black middle class. Mr. Ferguson speculated as to the reasons the Jenkins family left Anderson, and if they might have been forced to leave. Dr. Brandt wondered if these were the only Black businesses in Anderson. Ms. Saunders Pemberton asked if there were other buildings that should be added to the district and if staff is looking at the district holistically. Ms. Harness explained the rationale for adding this small section and stated that, based on online windshield survey, there did not appear to be anything obvious that could also be added. Dr. Huff wondered when Anderson was last comprehensively surveyed. Mrs. Johnson said it had likely been many years. Mr. Ferguson explained that in the immediate area there were other buildings that could be considered historic, but were outside the existing period of significance for the district. Dr. Brown moved to approve the nomination at the local level of significance, with a second by Ms. Leifeste. The motion was approved unanimously.
2. **Colonial-Hites Company (West Columbia, Lexington County)** was presented by Mr. Robert Lewis of Rogers, Lewis, Jackson, Mann, and Quinn. Mr. Andrew Chandler, retired SHPO Senior Architectural Historian, noted that as a student he discussed the curtains at the Thomas Cooper Library at the University of South Carolina with Dr. Patterson and was told that the metal curtains were made by Colonial-Hites as a cost-saving measure. He also noted that the curtains are the same as those used in the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi. Dr. Huff said that he remembered when he was living in Columbia in the 1960s that Colonial-Hites commissioned a local female artist, Jean McWhorter, an instructor at the Columbia Museum of Art,

to sculpt the lions for the Ethiopian airport. He noted that the lion was chosen as the historic symbol of the Ethiopian monarchy, and said it was an example of how Colonial-Hites utilized local talent. Ms. Saunders Pemberton asked about future plans for the building. Mr. Lewis stated that the plans are evolving, noting that his client originally wished to pursue the abandoned building tax credit, but after learning about the historic significance of the Colonial-Hites Company opted to also go after the federal historic tax credit. Ms. Saunders Pemberton asked if all the buildings in the complex are connected. Mr. Lewis stated that they were, but some of the buildings are now in partial collapse. Ms. Moore asked where the company founders were from. Mr. Lewis said both founders were from Columbia, but that Mr. Brown bought out Mr. Hite relatively early in the company's history. He noted that the children of the founder still run the business in Columbia. Ms. Moore noted the highly successful and unique managerial practices of the owners, especially the integration of workers during the era of segregation. Mr. Lewis said that he believed the company employed many workers instead of relying on automation. Dr. Brandt asked about the changing of the name from Colonial-Hites to Colite. Mr. Lewis speculated that it was a matter of clarity and simplification. Ms. Saunders Pemberton made a motion, seconded by Dr. Huff, for approval of the nomination at the local level of significance. The Board approved the motion unanimously.

3. **Richardson-Godbold House (Marion vicinity, Marion County)** was presented by Ms. Virginia E. Harness, Architectural Historian at the SHPO. Patricia and James Godbold, the owners of the property, were present, and Mrs. Godbold expressed her appreciation to SHPO staff and the Review Board. Mrs. Godbold said that listing their home in the National Register was a lifelong dream. Dr. Huff noted that his friend, Dr. Stanly Godbold, in Mississippi requested Dr. Huff support the nomination. Mr. Judge asked about acknowledging the potential for archaeological resources on the property. Dr. Foley addressed the difficulty of listing properties in the National Register under Criterion D without undertaking an archaeological survey. Ms. Saunders Pemberton pointed out that every historical site is also an archaeological site. Dr. Brandt asked about the graining on the home's interior. Mrs. Godbold explained that the graining on the stairs and baseboards was not paint, and it was her understanding that the effect was created from enslaved workers holding burning sticks against the wood. Dr. Brandt noted that was highly unusual. Ms. Saunders Pemberton asked if there were other residential post offices listed on the National Register. Ms. Harness said she was not aware of any and referred the question to Mr. Chandler, who said he did not specifically recall any but he was sure there were. He did note that his family had a post office in their house during a similar time period. Mr. Paul Gettys and Dr. Huff also said they had familial connections to residential post offices. Ms. Saunders Pemberton asked if this type of post office was common. Ms. Harness noted that research suggested it was more common for the post office to be in a store, but anecdotally there are plenty of examples of residential post offices. Ms. Moore made a motion, seconded by Dr. Huff, for approval of the nomination at the local level of significance. The Board approved the motion unanimously.

4. **Olympia Mill School (Columbia vicinity, Richland County)** was presented by the preparer, Ms. Staci Richey. Ms. Saunders Pemberton asked if the school was integrated. Ms. Richey stated that the school was located in a white mill village and that the school was therefore also a white school. Dr. Huff pointed out that under state law at the time African American and white mill workers could not work under the same roof. Ms. Leifeste asked what original fabric of the building remained. Ms. Richey said original fabric included six of the nine windows, the wood siding, beadboard soffits, rafter tails, porch ceiling, chimney, and fireplaces. Dr. Brandt noted that the changes to the exterior of the building were common to that house type within the mill village. Ms. Saunders Pemberton asked about what was attached to the side the building in the historic photo. Ms. Richey explained that it was an exterior stair. Ms. Saunders Pemberton also asked about the track running in front of the school in the historic photo and Ms. Richey clarified that it was a trolley track. Ms. Moore asked about child labor laws at the mill and Ms. Richey stated that South Carolina was ahead of the curve on child labor laws, probably due to the high profile mills at Granby and Olympia. She also noted the pressure put on the mills by Narciso Gener Gonzales, the editor of the *State*. Dr. Brandt noted that Gonzales also wrote extensively on the exploitation of women's labor. Dr. Brandt additionally noted that she is currently working on a National Register nomination for the Olympia Mill Village. Dr. Sherry Jaco spoke in support of the nomination, stating she was from Olympia and grew up in the mill village. She noted that it is the hope that the museum within the school building will blend insider and outsider perspectives. Dr. Huff made a motion to approve the nomination at the local level of significance, seconded by Dr. Brown. The Board approved the motion unanimously.
5. **Carroll Rosenwald School (Rock Hill vicinity, York County)** was presented by the preparer, Mr. Paul M. Gettys, and by Ms. LeAnn Gardner, the Carroll School Teacher. Dr. Brown inquired about how the classes taught at the school present the shared experience of the Great Depression. Ms. Gardner stated that it is emphasized in the class that the Great Depression affected everyone, across class and race. Dr. Brown asked if the class ever engages with white presenters who lived through the Depression. Ms. Gardner said that they did not. Dr. Brown noted her concern that if the presenters are only African American, the impression left is of only a poor Black experience. Ms. Gardner reiterated that the class tries to focus on a shared experience. Mr. Judge asked if the location of the privy and the well are known. Ms. Gardner said that they are known and that there were two privies, one for girls and one for boys. Ms. Saunders Pemberton asked when the field trips to the school began. Ms. Gardner said that the program began in 2004. Mr. Gettys noted that the school district has owned the building since 1929. Ms. Queenie Hall, part of the Instruction Department staff at Rock Hill Schools, spoke in support of the nomination and thanked everyone who worked on it. She noted that an effort is made as part of the class experience to put Carroll Rosenwald into context as a Black school. Ms. Saunders Pemberton made a motion to approve the nomination at the local level of significance, seconded by Mr. Judge. The Board approved the motion unanimously.

Other Business

Dr. Brandt announced the following upcoming Review Board meeting dates:

The summer 2018 meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 27, 2018.

The fall 2018 meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 16, 2018.

The spring 2019 meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 15, 2019.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Dr. Brandt asked for a motion to adjourn. Dr. Huff made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Moore. The meeting adjourned at 12:26 PM.